

## PAN AM RAILWAYS

IRON HORSE PARK No. Billerica, MA 01862

Office of Proceedings

Part of Public Process

July 13, 2007.

Mr. Vernon A. Williams Secretary Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street SW Washington, DC. 20423-0001

RE: STB Docket No. AB-32(Sub-No. 53X)

Boston and Maine Corporation-Abandonment Exemption-in Essex County, MA

219755

STB Docket No. AB-355(Sub-No. 5X)

Springfield Terminal Railway Company-Discontinuance of Service Exemption-in-Essex County, MA

Reply Pursuant to 49 CFR 1152.29 (Prospective use of rights-of-way for interim trail use and rail banking)

Dear Mr. Williams:

Please find enclosed reply on behalf of the applicants in the above-referenced matter pursuant to 49 CFR 1152.29(b) (2).

This reply is in response to a request by the City of Haverhill, Massachusetts dated February 27, 2007 to the Surface Transportation Board to issue a Public Use Condition as well as a Certificate or Notice of Interim Trail Use rather than an outright abandonment authorization concerning a small portion of the line extending from the "End of Abandonment, Milepost 6.13" and the Main Street Bridge over the Merrimack River. The applicants do not intend to negotiate an agreement for above with the City of Haverhill, Massachusetts. The applicants have met twice with the City of Haverhill regarding above. There is an indication that the City of Haverhill can not get the necessary funding required to purchase said premises. The applicants have made several

attempts to contact the City of Haverhill and have not received any response to those attempts. As such the applicants intend not to negotiate with the City of Haverhill.

In closing pursuant to 49 CFR 1152.29(g) the applicants request the Surface Transportation Board to issue a decision authorizing an outright abandonment/exemption.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Q. Geary

Attorney

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